

No. 6.

(New Zealand, General.)

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 1st April, 1893.

With reference to my predecessor's despatch (General) of the 7th June, 1887, respecting the proposed extension of the Coinage Act of 1870 to the Australasian Colonies, to which they all agreed with the exception of Victoria and Queensland, I have the honour to inform you that the subject has again been under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, and that the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury concur with me in the opinion that, in any such application of the Act, sections 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, and 17 should be omitted, and that the modifying power contained in section 11 (9) should be exercised to make section 7 permissive only instead of obligatory; and that their Lordships trust that this may remove the objections which weighed most strongly with Victoria and Queensland in 1886.

2. With regard to the Coinage Acts, 1889 and 1891, the Lords Commissioners are of opinion that section 2 of the latter Act is a substantive amendment of the Act of 1870, and should be so treated in any Proclamation applying the Act of 1870 to a colony. With this exception, their Lordships agree that the Acts of 1889 and 1891 are distinct amendments, and cannot properly be applied to any colony under section 11 of the Act of 1870.

3. I shall be glad to be informed at your early convenience whether your Government concur in the proposed application of the Act of 1870, and of section 2 of the Act of 1891, to the colony under your government.

I may add that the Act of 1870 was applied to Fiji in 1881, and that section 2 of the Act of 1891 will be extended to that colony.

I have, &c.,

RIPON.

Governor the Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G., &c.

No. 7.

(New Zealand, No. 17.)

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 10th April, 1893.

With reference to your Lordship's telegram of the 2nd April, 1891, and to the reply from this department of the 10th of the same month, respecting the visit of a man-of-war to Rarotonga, I have the honour to transmit to you, for communication to your Government, a copy of a letter from the Department of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty proposing an alteration in the limits of the Australian station.

The practical convenience of the proposed change will doubtless commend itself to you, and Her Majesty's Government will be glad if your Government will obtain the concurrence of the colonies on the Continent of Australia and of Tasmania to the proposed new boundaries of the station, and their assent to this variation of the agreement of 1887.

I have forwarded copies of this despatch to the Governors of the colonies concerned, in order that the question may be considered before they are addressed to your Lordship.

I have, &c.,

RIPON.

Governor the Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G., &c.

Enclosure.

SIR,—

Admiralty, 18th March, 1893.

With reference to your letter of the 15th December last, respecting the proposed extension of jurisdiction under the Pacific Orders in Council so as to include the Cook Group and several other islands which are British possessions, or under British protection, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will inform the Secretary of State that in their opinion this proposal should be considered in connection with applications made by the present Governor of New Zealand and by his predecessors for one of Her Majesty's ships on the